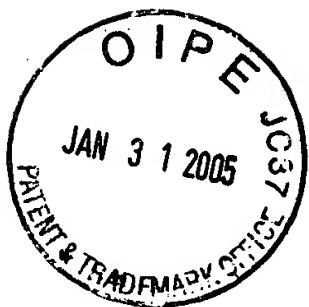


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

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Paula S. Linkhart  
Signature

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Frank HULSTAERT  
Eugeen VANMECHELEN  
Hugo VANDERSTICHELE  
Andre VAN DE VOORDE  
Stefaan VAN GOOL

Confirmation No.: 8708

Group Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: NICHOLS, CHRISTOPHER J

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11362.0034.PCUS00

Serial No.: 09/786,481

Filed: MARCH 5, 2001

For: TAU AS A MARKER FOR EARLY CNS  
DAMAGE

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 14, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2004 for which the three-month date for response is March 14, 2005.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2508/**11362.0034.PCUS00**.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.